

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MONTEV 03440 230533Z

21/51

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7728

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

S E C R E T MONTEVIDEO 3440

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PE UY

SUBJ: PROPOSED OUTLINE FOR DISCUSSION WITHACTING FORE VN

MINISTER MICHELIN

REF: BOWDLER/SIRACUSA TELCON

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

1. I UNDERSTAND THAT APPROVAL IS GIVEN FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF URQUAY AS AUTHORIZED IN STATE 255877
BUT THAT THIS SHOULD BE DONE ORALLY. I PROPOSE TO ADDRESS THE ACTING
FOREIGN MINISTER ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A) I WOULD STATE AT THE OUTSET THAT I HAD ASKED FOR THE MEETING
ON INSTRUCTIONS OF MY GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THE CIRCUMSTANCES

OF MY SERVICE IN AND DEPARTURE FROM PERU, AS WELL AS THAT OF FRANK
ORTIZ, AND TO MAKE CLEAR THE EXACT NATURE OF OUR FUNCTIONS IN THE
DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN WHICH WE HAVE SERVED. I WOULD STATE THAT THE
NEED TO DO THIS ARISES BECAUSE OF THE UNFORTUNATE AND ERRONEOUS
REFERENCES WHICH WERE MADE ABOUT BOTH OF US BY PRESIDENT VELASCO
OF PERU IN A PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH HE HELD ON NOVEMBER 13 IN LIMA.
I WOULD SAY THAT MY GOVERNMENT IS ANXIOUS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF
URUGUAY UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH OF THIS MATTER SINCE PRESIDENT VELASCO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MONTEV 03440 230533Z

HAD STATED PUBLICLY THAT BOTH OF US WERE OF THE CIA AND THAT WE

HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM PERU. I WOULD THEN STATE THAT I HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ASSURE THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY THAT NEITHER I NOR MR. ORTIZ HAS HAD ANY PAST OR PRESENT CONNECTIONS WITH THE CIA, THAT NEITHER OF US HAD ENGAGED IN ANY IMPROPER ACTIVITIES WHILE IN PERU AND THAT MY GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED THAT BOTH OF US HAD CONDUCTED OURSELVES WITH FULLEST RESPECT FOR THE LAWS AND INSTITUTIONS

OF THAT COUNTRY. MOREOVER, EACH OF US DEPARTED IN A NORMAL WAY UPON THE TERMINATION OF OUR TOURS OF DUTY THERE.

2. I WOULD GO ON TO STATE THAT I SERVED IN LIMA AS DCM FOR ALMOST SIX YEARS, FROM SEPTEMBER 1963 UNTIL JUST AFTER THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST 1969 AND THAT MR. ORTIZ HAD SERVED A NORMAL TOUR OF THREE YEARS AS FIRST SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF THE POLITICAL SECTION. DURING THIS PERIOD I FREQUENTLY SERVED AS CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. AND, IN FACT, ACTED IN THIS CAPACITY FROM MAY 1969, UPON THE DEPARTURE OF

AMBASSADOR JONES, UNTIL I TURNED THE MISSION OVER TO HIS SUCCESSOR, AMBASSADOR BELCHER, IN MID-AUGUST. I WOULD SAY THAT DURING ALL OF THIS PERIOD I WAS ON GOOD, PERSONAL AS WELL AS OFFICIAL TERMS WITH PRESIDENT VELASCO WHOM I HAD KNOWN FOR YEARS, WITH THE THEN FONMINISTER, GEN. MERCADO JARRIN, AND IN FACT WITH INNUMERABLE FIGURES IN AND OUT OF THE GOVERNMENT. I PARTICIPATED, AS DID MR. ORTIZ, IN FORMAL CEREMONIES IN THE NATIONAL PALACE WHEN AMBASSADOR BELCHER PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT VELASCO AND THEREAFTER I WAS RECEIVED BY THE PRESIDENT IN HIS OFFICE FOR MY FAREWELL CALL. I ALSO MADE FAREWELL CALLS ON THE FONMINISTER AND OTHER CABINET OFFICIALS AND AN OFFICIAL FAREWELL LUNCHEON WAS GIVEN IN MY HONOR AT THE CLUB NACIONAL BY THE SECOND HIGHEST OFFICIAL IN THE FONMIN, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AMBASSADOR ALEJANDRO DEUSTA. I WOULD ADD THAT I HAVE SINCE THAT TIME VISITED PERU ON MORE THAN A DOZEN OCCASIONS, THE

LAST SUCH VISIT BEING IN EARLY OCTOBER OF THIS YEAR.

3. I WOULD THEN STATE THAT MY GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT PRESIDENT VELASCO

PERHAPS CONFUSED BY OTHER EVENTS SUCH AS THE FALSE CHARGES OF CIA CONNECTIONS WHICH WERE MADE AGAINST ME BY OIGA MAGAZINE AFTER MY DEPARTURE FROM PERU, WILL TAKE STEPS TO SEE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU ITSELF CLARIFIES THE RECORD. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS CONCERNED THAT
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PAGE 03 MONTEV 03440 230533Z

THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY HAVE THE FACTS WHICH ARE HERewith, PRIVATELY

BEING GIVEN TO. OBVIOUSLY, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF MY FUNCTION HERE AS AMBASSAFWR BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANT POSITION WHICH MR. FRANK ORTIZ, WHO IS OF COURSE WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY, HOLDS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN

RELATION TO US/URUGUAYAN AFFAIRS. I WOULD CLOSE BY STATING THAT I AM INFORMED THAT AMBASSADOR PEREZ CALDAS, WHEN HE CALLS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE NEXT WEEK, WILL BE GIVEN THE SAME ASSURANCES WHICH I AM HEREWITH GIVING DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY, AND EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THE ACTING FONMINISTER WOULD CONVEY THESE ASSURANCES TO PRESIDENT BORDABERRY.
SIRACUSA

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NNN

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